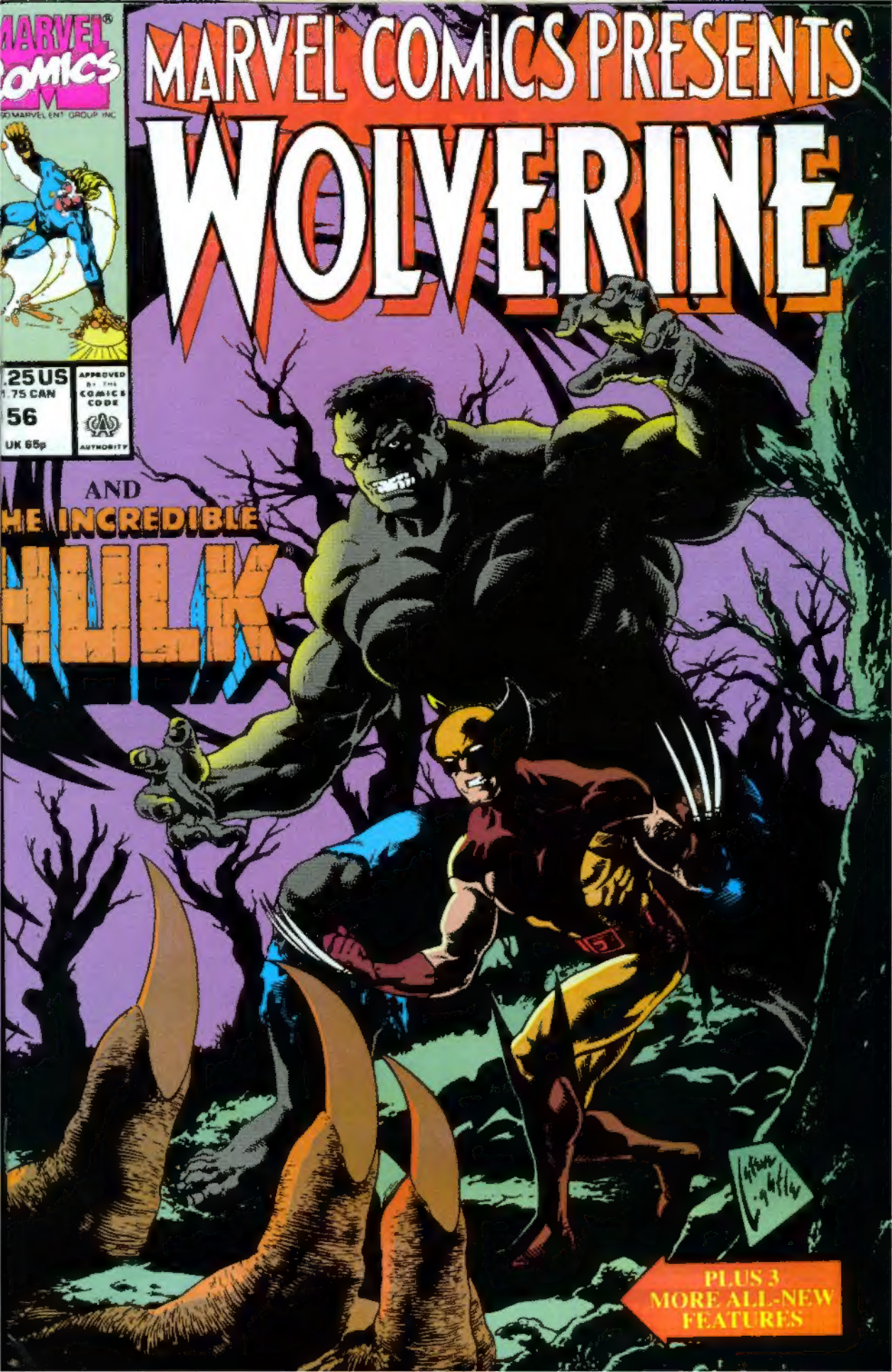
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
AND
THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
.25 US
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56
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
PLUS 3 MORE ALL-NEW FEATURES

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS

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Page

WOLVERINE 1

On The Road
Part 3

"SHOOT OUT AT THE FANTASY FACTORY"

Wolverine—imprisoned—and *Bruce Banner*—*The Hulk*, on the road and headed for trouble!
When their paths cross, the result is deadly!

Writer — MICHAEL HIGGINS
Penciler — DAVE ROSS
Inker — DAN DAY
Letterer — TODD KLEIN
Colorist — BRAD VANCATA

Page

WEREWOLF 9

Children of the Beast
Part 3

"TRAIL OF BLOOD"

Having learned that there is *no cure* for his condition, Jack Russell, *Werewolf by Night*, now fights for his life against the insane fury of *Silver Dagger*, self-styled slayer of monsters.

Writer — LEN KAMINSKI
Penciler — JIM FRY
Inker — BRAD JOYCE
Letterer — BRAD JOYCE
Colorist — GREGORY WRIGHT

Page

STINGRAY 17

Family Matters
PART 4

"PURSUIT"

Desperate to save his kidnapped wife, Dr. Walter Newell, in his guise as the Aquatic Avenger, tracked down the murderous *Tiger Shark* to an underwater cavern. But in the resulting battle, the cavern collapsed—leaving Newell's wife, Diane, trapped behind tons of rubble!
And not even the power of Stingray may be enough to get her out alive!

Writer — LEN WEIN
Penciler — JIM FERN
Inker — MIKE DeCARLO
Letterer — TIM HARKINS
Colorist — BRAD VANCATA

Page

SPEEDBALL 25

"ANY NUMBER CAN PLAY"

Robby Baldwin, a teenager in Springdale where super heroes are illegal, was exposed to a new type of radiation during a lab experiment, giving him kinetic energy powers and transforming him into the masked marvel known as *Speedball*.

Plot — STEVE DITKO
Script — JO DUFFY
Penciler — STEVE DITKO
Inker — SAM GRAINGER
Letterer — GARY FIELDS
Colorist — DAVE SAMPSON

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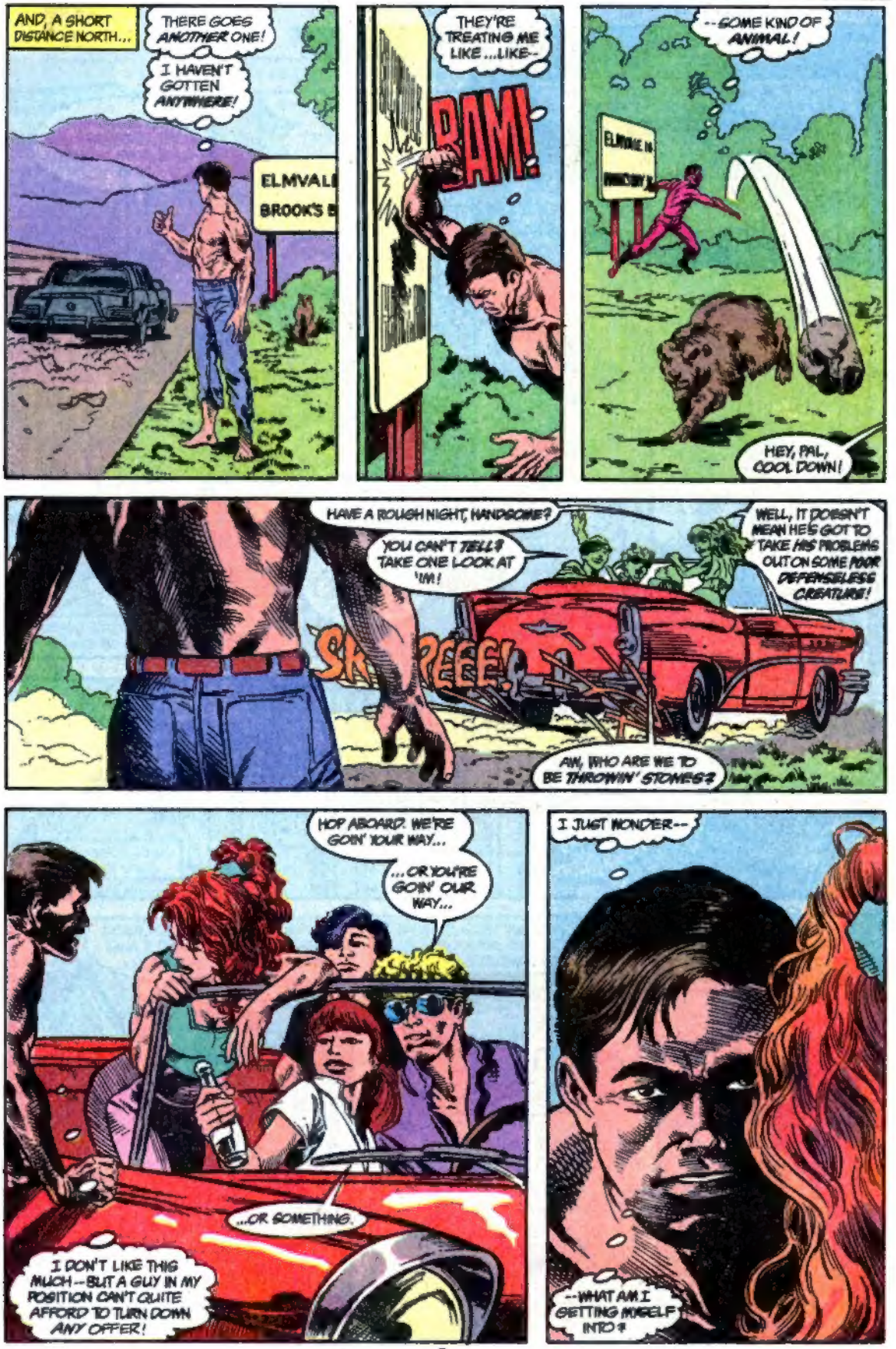
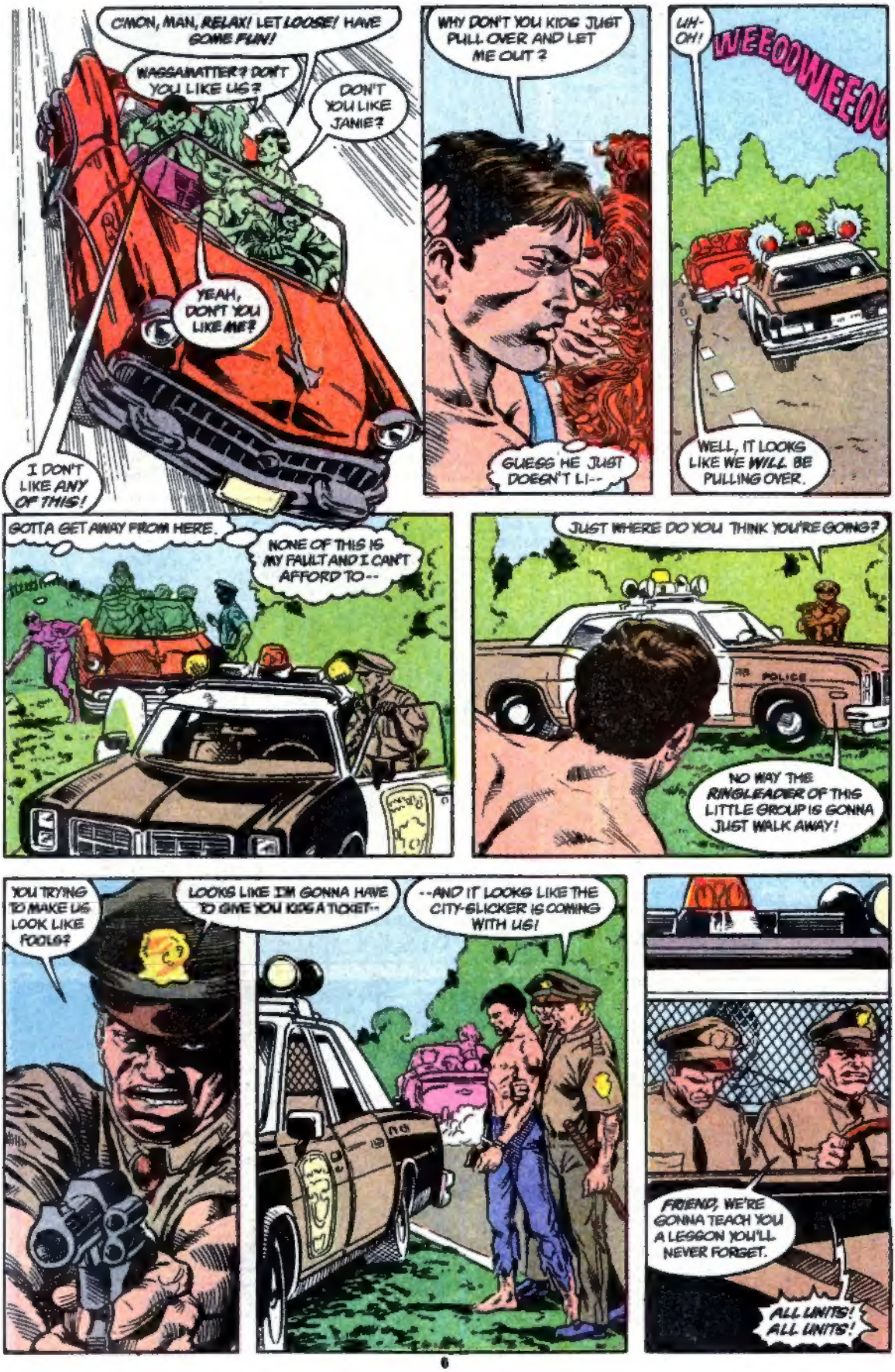
SHOOTOUT AT THE Fantasy Factory

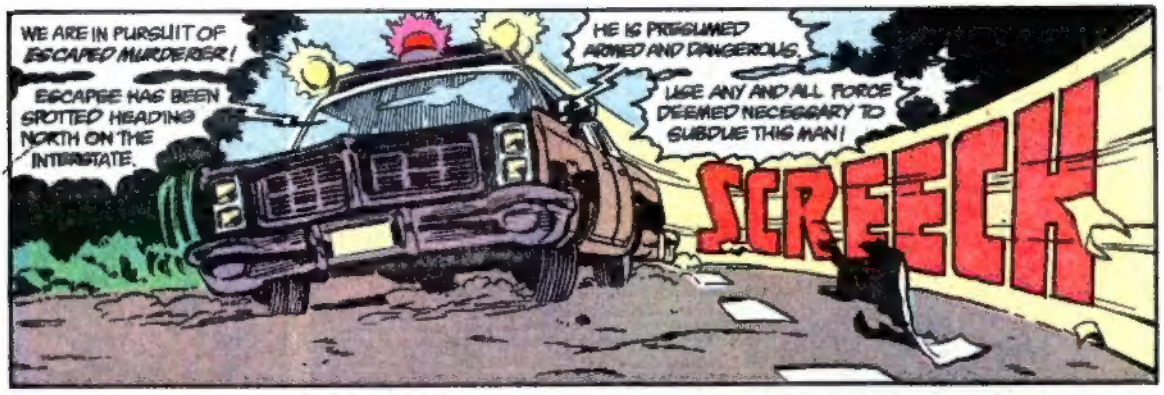
PAIN.
PRISON.
THAT'S ALL I KNOW.
ALL... I'LL EVER KNOW.
UNLESS...
NO.
I'LL PROBABLY DIE IN THIS PRISON.
I'M GOING TO DIE.
I--I DON'T WANT TO DIE.
I'LL... I'LL ESCAPE!
I'M NOT GOING TO DIE!
I'M GOING TO LIVE!
SNIK
I'M GOING TO BE FREE!


AND, A SHORT DISTANCE NORTH...
THERE GOES ANOTHER ONE!
I HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANYWHERE!
ELMVALE
BROOK'S
THEY'RE TREATING ME LIKE ...LIKE--
BAM!
--SOME KIND OF ANIMAL!
ELMVALE IS
HEY, PAL, COOL DOWN!
HAVE A ROUGH NIGHT, HANDSOME?
YOU CAN'T TELL? TAKE ONE LOOK AT 'IM!
WELL, IT DOESN'T MEAN HE'S GOT TO TAKE HIS PROBLEMS OUT ON SOME POOR DEFENSELESS CREATURE!
SK REEE!
AW, WHO ARE WE TO BE THROWIN' STONES?
HOP ABOARD. WE'RE GOIN' YOUR WAY...
...OR YOU'RE GOIN' OUR WAY...
...OR SOMETHING.
I DON'T LIKE THIS MUCH--BUT A GUY IN MY POSITION CAN'T QUITE AFFORD TO TURN DOWN ANY OFFER!
I JUST WONDER--
--WHAT AM I GETTING MYSELF INTO?

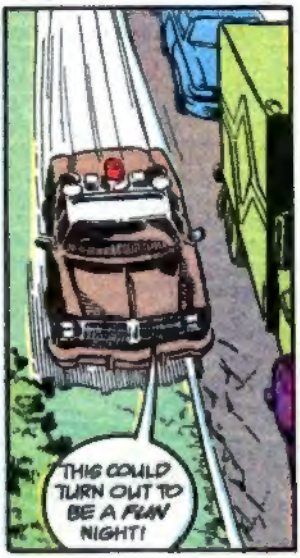
WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO THIS TIME?!
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE.
I CAN GET OUT OF HERE ANY TIME I WANT!
ONLY I SHOULDN'T.
THE WORLD'S SUPPOSED TO THINK I'M DEAD...LIKE THE REST OF THE X-MEN!
DON'T WANNA KEEP LEAVIN' CLUES TO THE CONTRARY.
SAY, WILFORD, HOW COME WE TOOK HIM IN ALIVE?
ARE YOU CRAZY, SMOKEY?
WE COULDN'T JUST KILL HIM...
EH, LONG AS HE'S HERE, MAYBE WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN WITH HIM.
HOLD YOUR HORSES! YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE!
NO...HE WON'T!
I'VE TAKEN ENOUGH.
NO MORE.
WHAT'S ONE MORE LOOSE END, ANYWAY?
SO, HOW'S OUR LITTLE FRIEND--
--DOING?
CAN'T STAND CREEPS LIKE THAT.
I'D STICK AROUND...
...MAYBE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THEM...
...BUT I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE PRUDENT JUST NOW.
'SIDES, SOMETHIN' TELLS ME THAT SOME DAY THEY'RE GONNA GET WHAT THEY DESERVE ANYWAY!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE'S GONE?!
I WANT HIM BACK HERE AND I WANT HIM NOW!
BUT, SARGE...
NO BUTS!
JUST FIND HIM...OR YOURS ARE HISTORY!

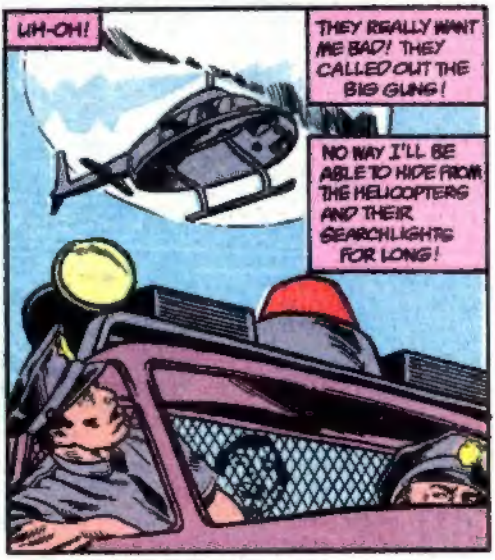
DON'T WANT TO DO THIS.
... GOT TO.
CAN'T STOP MYSELF.
GOTTEN WORSE...
...AND WORSE...
...EVER SINCE I LEFT CANADA!
WISH I COULD CONTROL MYSELF...
...BUT THAT'S A FANTASY.
THIS IS WHAT MY REALITY HAS BECOME.
NEED IT...
NEED IT...
...OR I'M GOING TO DIE.
I DON'T WANT TO KILL...
...AND I SURE DON'T WANT TO DIE.
JUST WANT THE... PAIN TO GO AWAY!
BUT THE PAIN NEVER GOES AWAY!

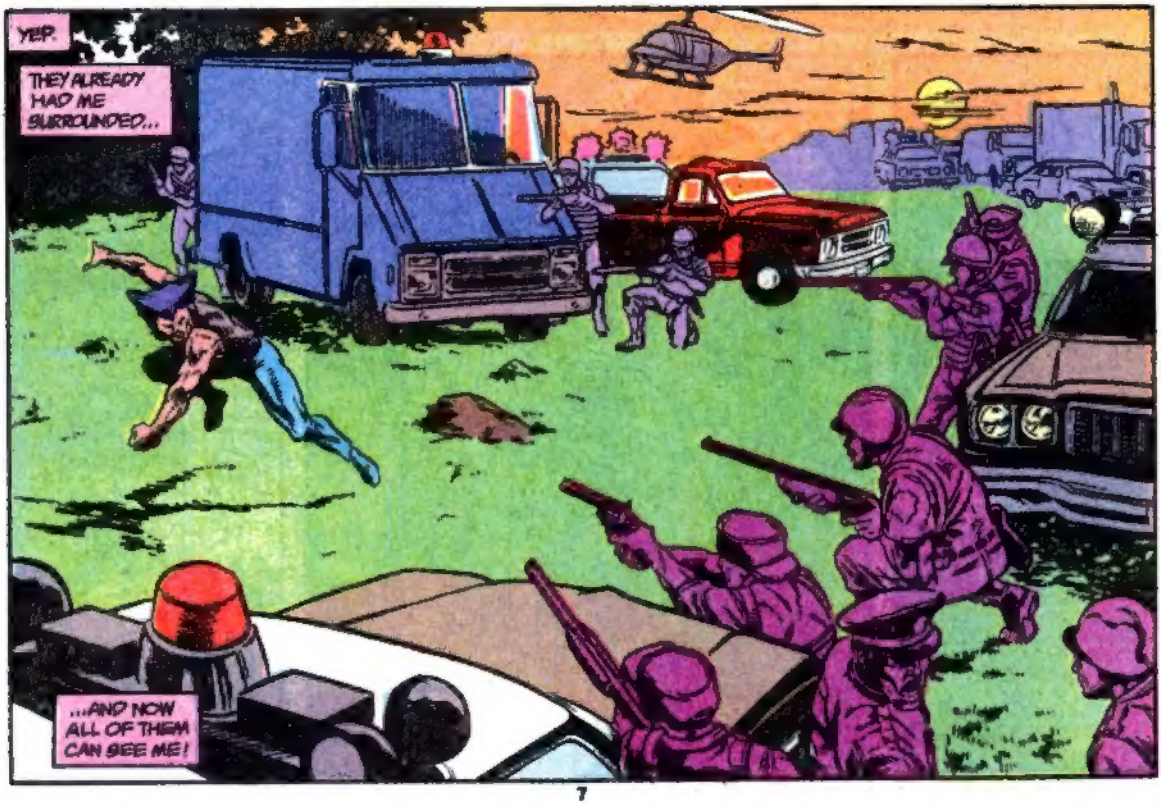

C'MON, MAN, RELAX! LET LOOSE! HAVE SOME FUN!
WASSAMATTER? DON'T YOU LIKE US?
DON'T YOU LIKE JANIE?
YEAH, DON'T YOU LIKE ME?
I DON'T LIKE ANY OF THIS!
WHY DON'T YOU KIDS JUST PULL OVER AND LET ME OUT?
GUESS HE JUST DOESN'T LI--
UH-OH!
WEEOOWEEOO
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL BE PULLING OVER.
GOTTA GET AWAY FROM HERE.
NONE OF THIS IS MY FAULT AND I CAN'T AFFORD TO--
JUST WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
POLICE
NO WAY THE RINGLEADER OF THIS LITTLE GROUP IS GONNA JUST WALK AWAY!
YOU TRYING TO MAKE US LOOK LIKE FOOLS?
LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE TO GIVE YOU KIDS A TICKET--
--AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE CITY-SLICKER IS COMING WITH US!
FRIEND, WE'RE GONNA TEACH YOU A LEGGON YOU'LL NEVER FORGET.
ALL UNITS! ALL UNITS!

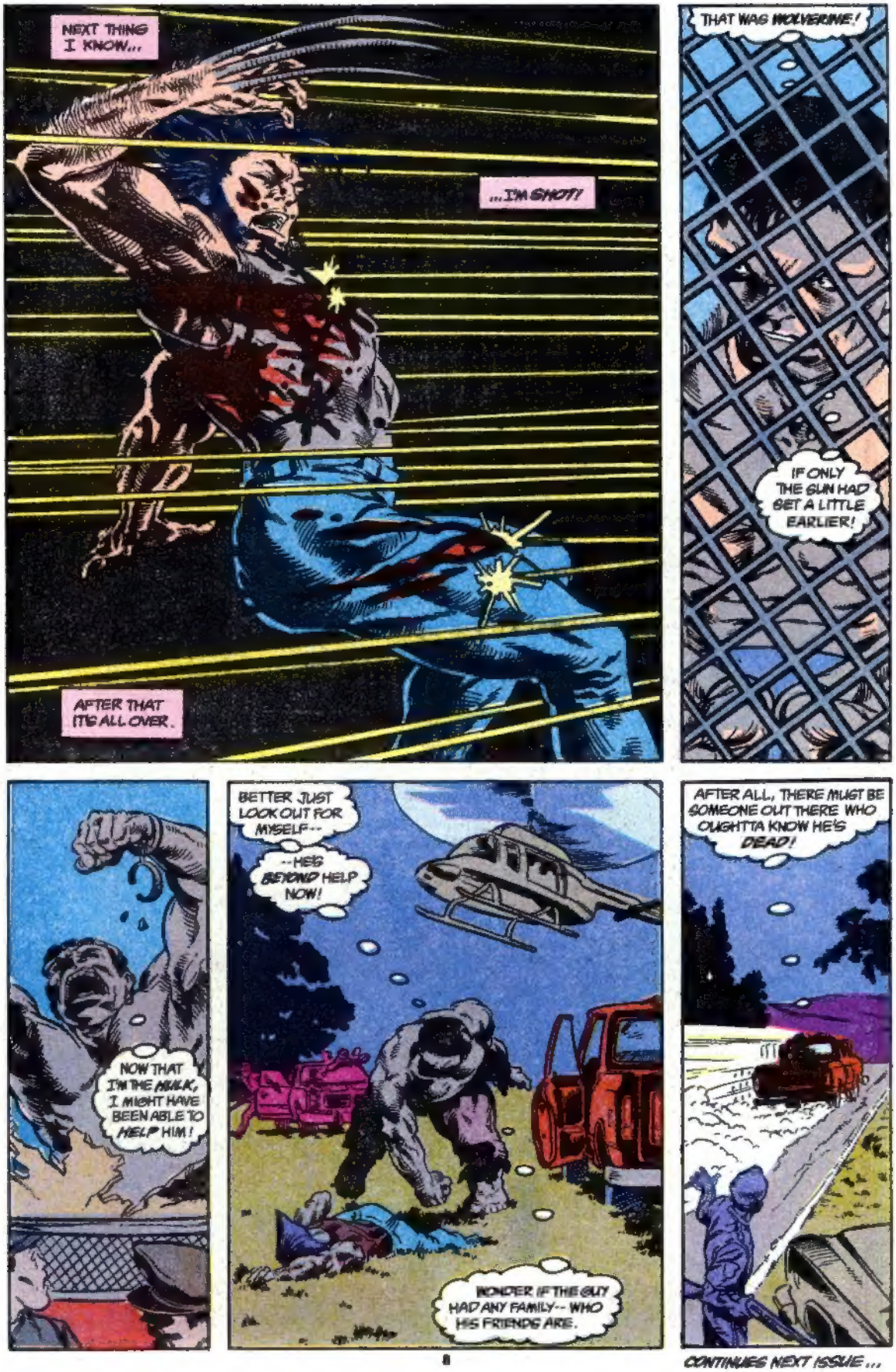

WE ARE IN PURSUIT OF ESCAPED MURDERER!
ESCAPEE HAS BEEN SPOTTED HEADING NORTH ON THE INTERSTATE.
HE IS PRESUMED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.
USE ANY AND ALL FORCE DEEMED NECESSARY TO SUBDUE THIS MAN!
SCREECH

REPEAT!
DO ANYTHING TO STOP THIS MAN!


THIS COULD TURN OUT TO BE A FUN NIGHT!

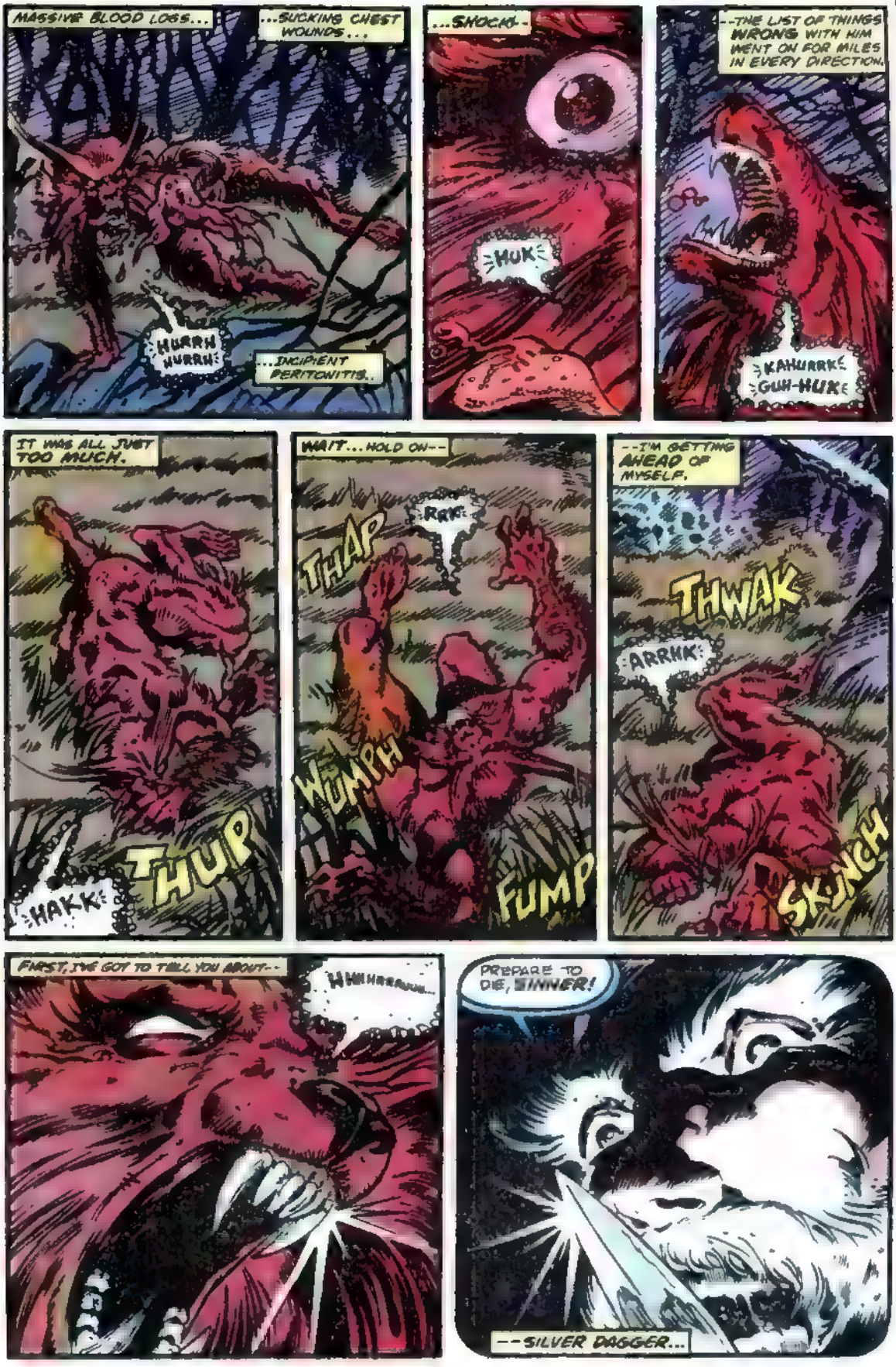

UH-OH!
THEY REALLY WANT ME BAD! THEY CALLED OUT THE BIG GUNS!
NO WAY I'LL BE ABLE TO HIDE FROM THE HELICOPTERS AND THEIR SEARCHLIGHTS FOR LONG!

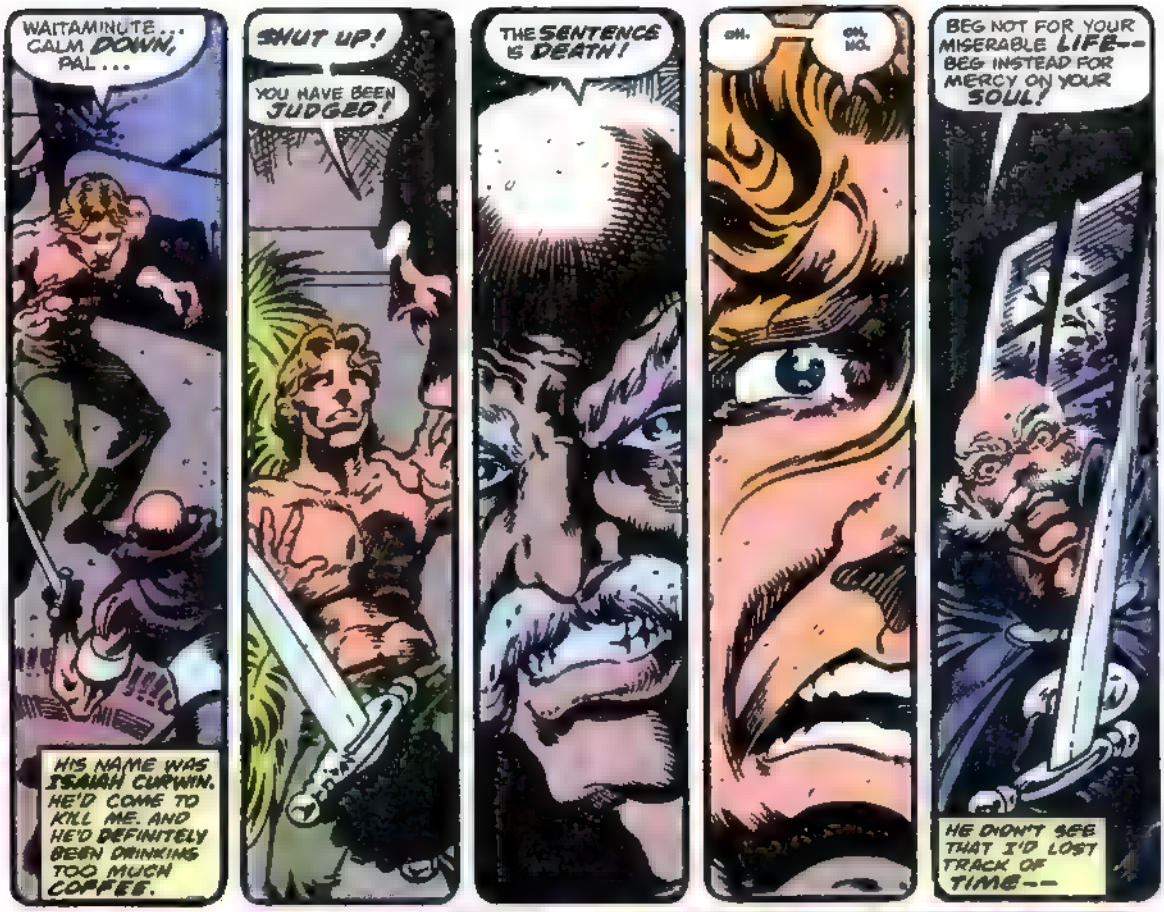

YEP.
THEY ALREADY HAD ME SURROUNDED...
...AND NOW ALL OF THEM CAN SEE ME!


NEXT THING I KNOW...
...I'M SHOT!
AFTER THAT IT'S ALL OVER.
THAT WAS WOLVERINE!
IF ONLY THE GUN HAD GOT A LITTLE EARLIER!
NOW THAT I'M THE HULK, I MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HELP HIM!
BETTER JUST LOOK OUT FOR MYSELF--
--HE'S BEYOND HELP NOW!
I WONDER IF THE GUY HAD ANY FAMILY-- WHO HIS FRIENDS ARE.
AFTER ALL, THERE MUST BE SOMEONE OUT THERE WHO OUGHTTA KNOW HE'S DEAD!

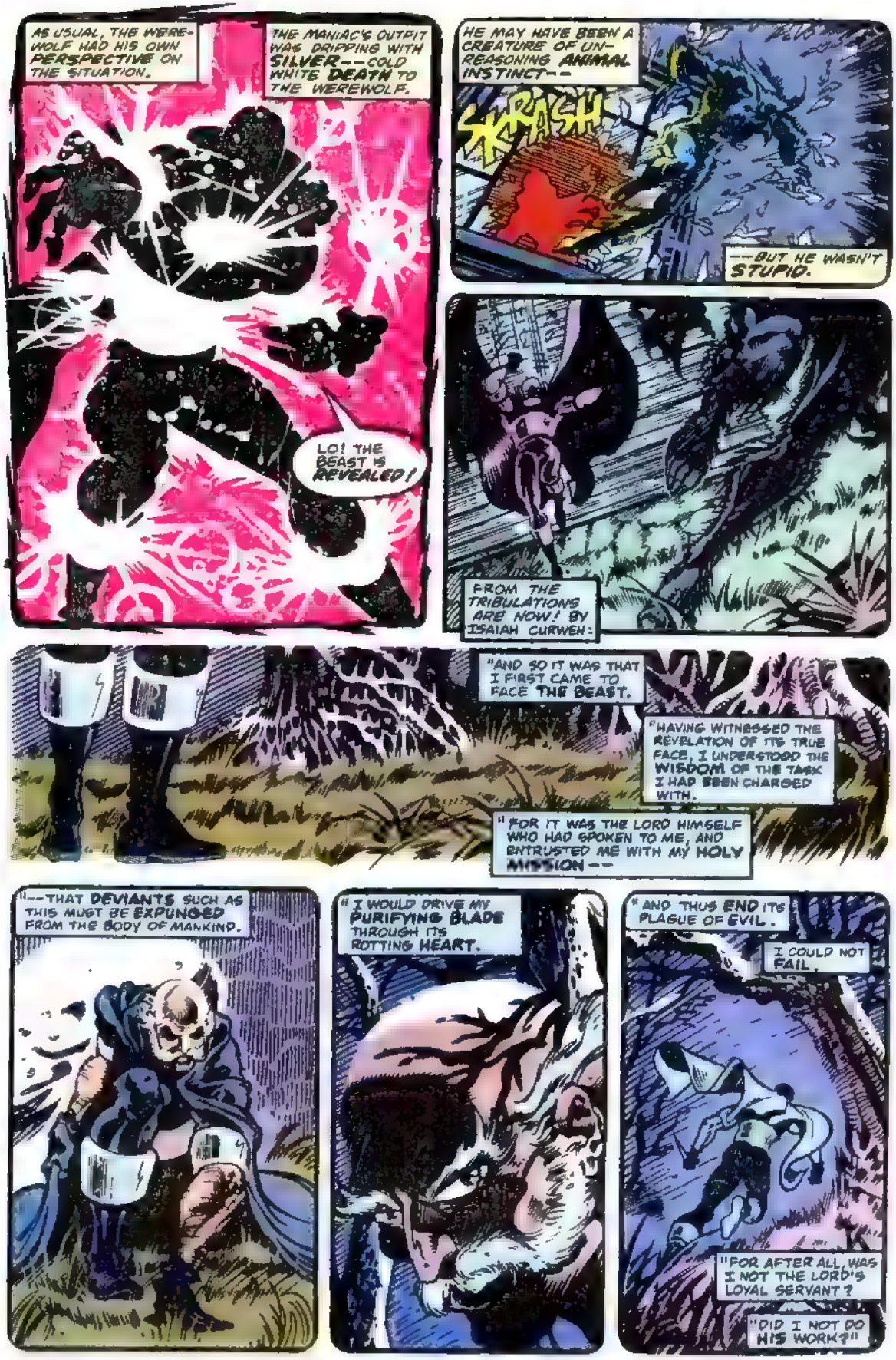
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT...
CHILDREN OF THE BEAST
Chapter III
TRAIL OF BLOOD
SECOND NIGHT: THE THICK, INTOXICATING SCENT OF BLOOD HUNG OVER THE FOREST.
URRHH
IT INFLAMED THE WEREWOLF'S SENSES, DRIVING HIM TO RUN, TO TEAR, TO SNATCH OUT WITH HIS JAWS.
THE FACT THAT THE BLOOD WAS HIS OWN ONLY MADE THE SITUATION MORE MADDENING.
AS HE RAN, PUNCTURED ORGANS AND SHATTERED BONES GRATED AGAINST EACH OTHER--
--SLAM-DANCING TOGETHER IN A SYMPHONY OF PAIN.
EACH BREATH FILLED HIS CHEST WITH ELECTRIFIED BARBED-WIRE.
HUURRH
RUURRHH
CONSUMED BY THE INSTINCTIVE FIGHT OR FLIGHT REFLEX, HE DIDN'T HAVE THE BRAIN-POWER TO REALIZE HE COULDN'T RUN FROM DEATH--
HAARROOOOO
--BUT I THINK HE WAS BEGINNING TO FIGURE IT OUT.


MASSIVE BLOOD LOSS...
...SUCKING CHEST WOUNDS...
HURRH HURRH
...INCIPIENT PERITONITIS..
...SHOCK!-
HUK
--THE LIST OF THINGS WRONG WITH HIM WENT ON FOR MILES IN EVERY DIRECTION.
KAHURRK! GUH-HUK!
IT WAS ALL JUST TOO MUCH.
HAK-K!
THUP
WAIT... HOLD ON--
RAK!
THAP
WUMPH
FUMP
--I'M GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF.
THWAK
ARRHK!
SKUNCH
FIRST, I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU ABOUT--
WHHHRRAUH...
PREPARE TO DIE, SINNER!
--SILVER DAGGER...

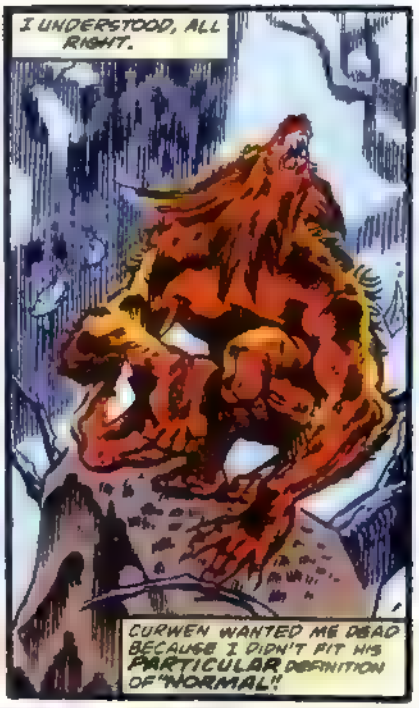

WAITAMINUTE... CALM DOWN, PAL...
HIS NAME WAS ISAIAH CURWIN. HE'D COME TO KILL ME. AND HE'D DEFINITELY BEEN DRINKING TOO MUCH COFFEE.
SHUT UP!
YOU HAVE BEEN JUDGED!
THE SENTENCE IS DEATH!
OH.
OH, NO.
BEG NOT FOR YOUR MISERABLE LIFE-- BEG INSTEAD FOR MERCY ON YOUR SOUL!
HE DIDN'T SEE THAT I'D LOST TRACK OF TIME--

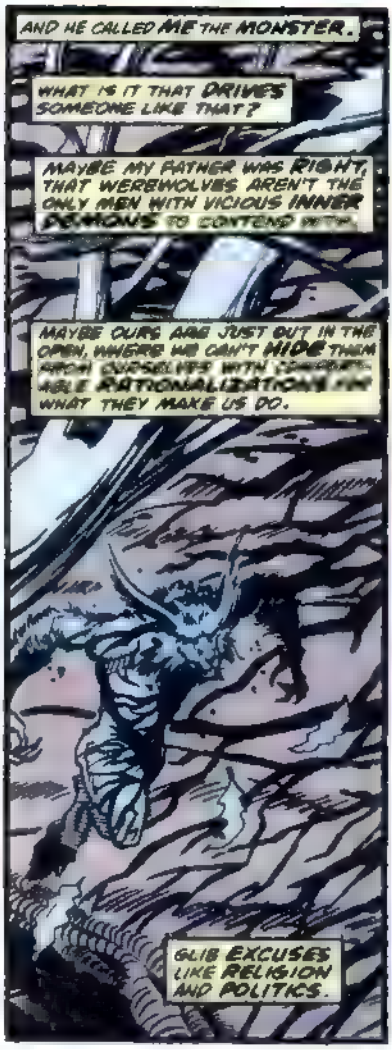
--THAT BEHIND HIM, THE COLD SEARING EYE OF THE FULL MOON HAD RISEN.
HHHRRUURRR
THAT'S WHEN THINGS GOT UGLY.

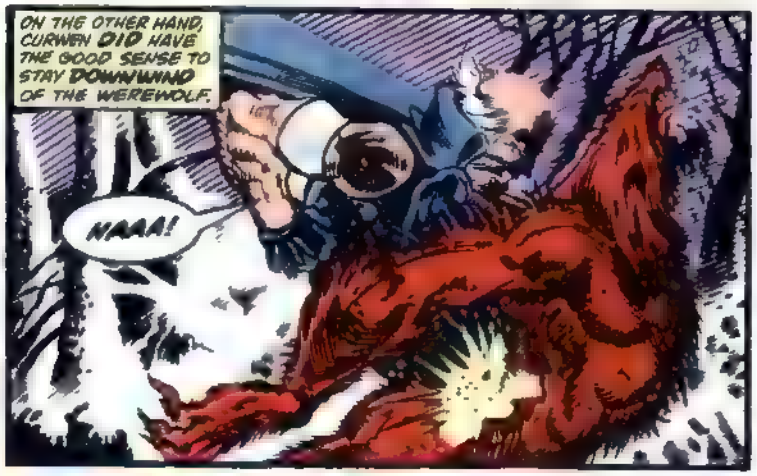

AS USUAL, THE WERE-WOLF HAD HIS OWN PERSPECTIVE ON THE SITUATION.
THE MANIAC'S OUTFIT WAS DRIPPING WITH SILVER--COLD WHITE DEATH TO THE WEREWOLF.
LO! THE BEAST IS REVEALED!
HE MAY HAVE BEEN A CREATURE OF UN-REASONING ANIMAL INSTINCT--
SMASH
--BUT HE WASN'T STUPID.
FROM THE TRIBULATIONS ARE NOW! BY ISAIAH CURWEN:
"AND SO IT WAS THAT I FIRST CAME TO FACE THE BEAST.
"HAVING WITNESSED THE REVELATION OF ITS TRUE FACE, I UNDERSTOOD THE WISDOM OF THE TASK I HAD BEEN CHARGED WITH.
"FOR IT WAS THE LORD HIMSELF WHO HAD SPOKEN TO ME, AND ENTRUSTED ME WITH MY HOLY MISSION--
"--THAT DEVIANTS SUCH AS THIS MUST BE EXPUNGED FROM THE BODY OF MANKIND.
"I WOULD DRIVE MY PURIFYING BLADE THROUGH ITS ROTTING HEART.
"AND THUS END ITS PLAGUE OF EVIL.
I COULD NOT FAIL.
"FOR AFTER ALL, WAS I NOT THE LORD'S LOYAL SERVANT?
"DID I NOT DO HIS WORK?"

THINGS HAD GOTTEN REALLY WEIRD. DESPITE EVERYTHING, I BEGAN TO FEEL SORRY FOR THIS POOR, FIERCE, WILD FERAL CHILD WITHIN ME.

ALL THE WEREWOLF WANTED WAS A FULL MOON AND A PATCH OF FOREST TO RUN IN.
HRRR...
HE JUST DIDN'T UNDER-STAND WHY THIS LUNATIC WANTED TO KILL HIM.


I UNDERSTOOD, ALL RIGHT.
CURWEN WANTED ME DEAD BECAUSE I DIDN'T FIT HIS PARTICULAR DEFINITION OF "NORMAL."

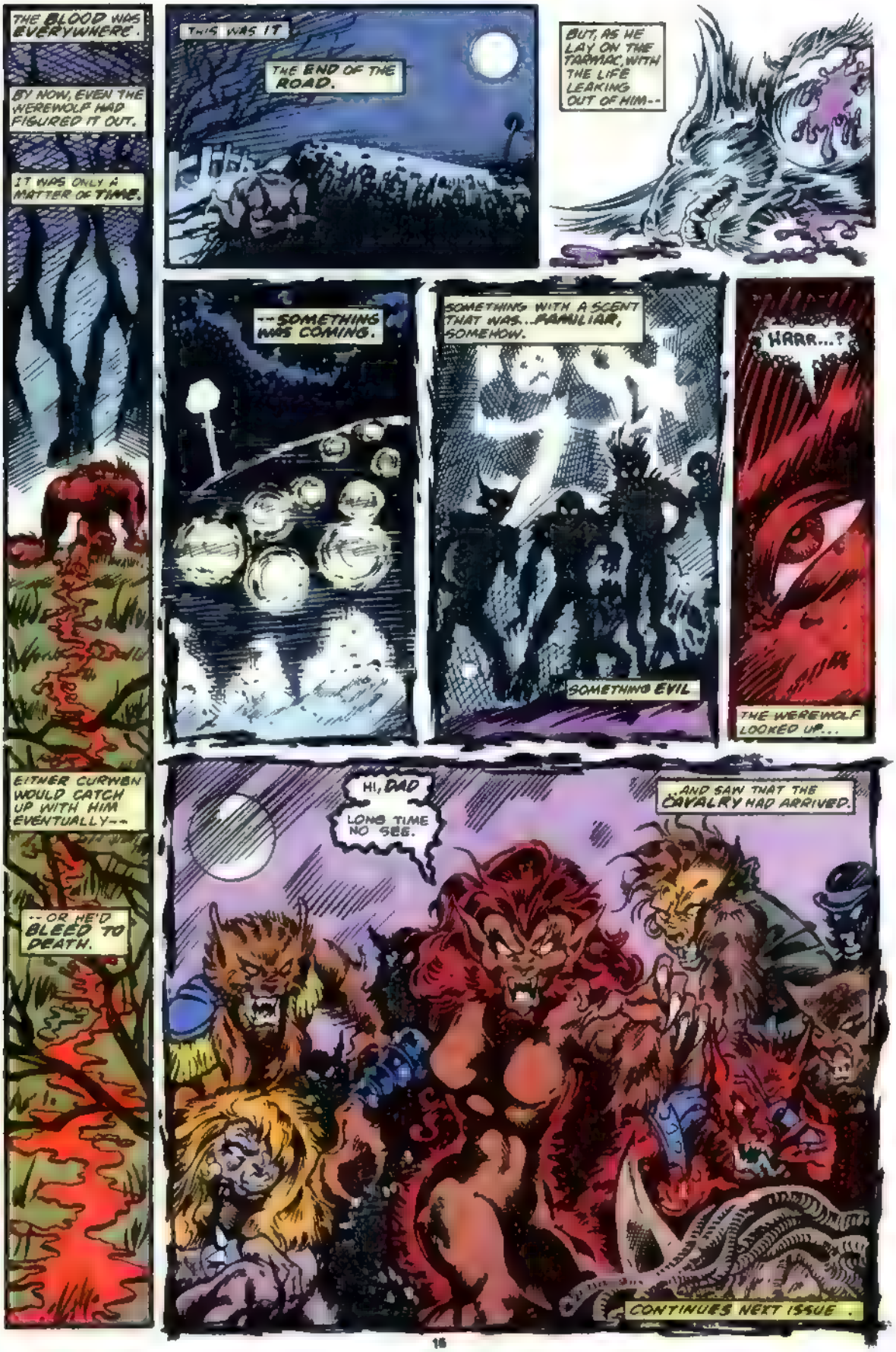

AND HE CALLED ME THE MONSTER.
WHAT IS IT THAT DRIVES SOMEONE LIKE THAT?
MAYBE MY FATHER WAS RIGHT. THAT WEREWOLVES AREN'T THE ONLY MEN WITH VICIOUS INNER DEMONS TO CONTEND WITH.
MAYBE OURS ARE JUST OUT IN THE OPEN, WHERE WE CAN'T HIDE THEM FROM OURSELVES WITH CONVENIENT-ABLE RATIONALIZATIONS FOR WHAT THEY MAKE US DO.
GLIB EXCUSES LIKE RELIGION AND POLITICS.


ON THE OTHER HAND, CURWEN DID HAVE THE GOOD SENSE TO STAY DOWNWIND OF THE WEREWOLF.
HAAA!

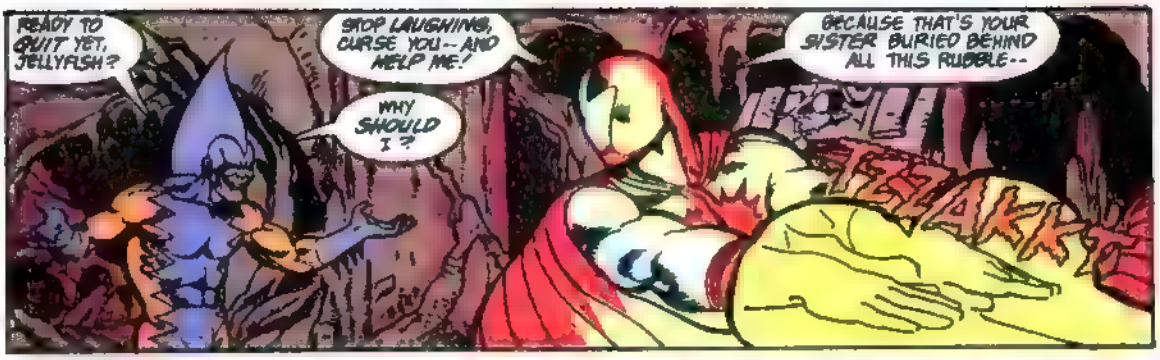
GHRRR!
URAH!

SKR-UP
RRURGH!
FILTH!
URRH!
SKULCH
DIE--
--MONSTER--
SKLAP
--DIE!
SKP
RRAH!
AAHKK!
SKRP
HURKK!
THE WEREWOLF HAD GOTTEN IN ONE GOOD SHOT BUT IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE.
BETWEEN CARTER'S SUPERIOR INTELLECT, HIS MANIACAL FURY, AND HIS SILVER KNIVES, THE DUMB ANIMAL NEVER HAD A PROPER.
URRHH
THE ONLY CHOICE HE HAD WAS RUN OR DIE.

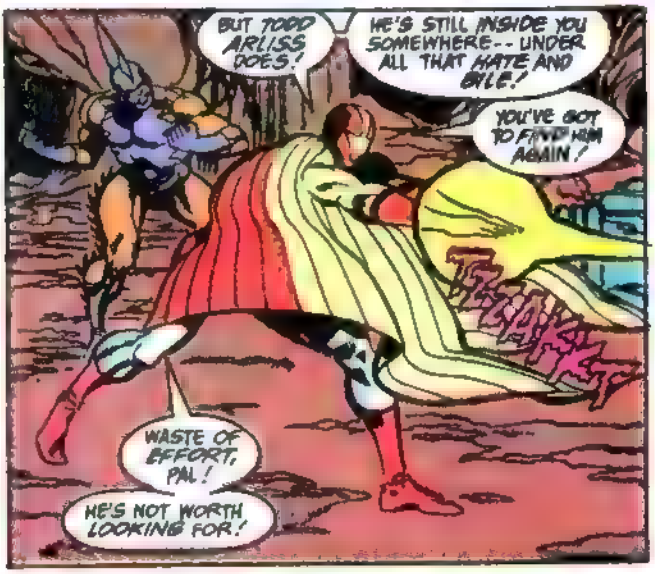
THE BEAST WAS ESCAPING.
IT COULDN'T BE HELPED.
I WOULD FINISH OUR BATTLE SOON ENOUGH.
I HAD VASTLY MORE IMPORTANT DUTIES TO ATTEND TO.
"SUCH AS THE SAFETY OF MY IMMORTAL SOUL.
"I HAD BEEN WOUNDED BY THE BEAST, AND SHOULD I ALLOW IT, ITS TAINT WOULD SOON INFECT AND CONSUME ME AS WELL.
"I HAD TO PROTECT MY PRECIOUS BODILY FLUIDS FROM ITS DISEASE.
"TO SERVE THE LORD, I MUST BE PURE.
THE WEAK, TAINTED FLESH MUST BE SCOURGED, PURIFIED WITH THE FLAME OF BLINDING, GLORIOUS PAIN.
"PAIN I MUST CONTROL, TRANSFORMING THE SCREAMING OF THE FLESH INTO RIGHTEOUS FURY TO WIELD AGAINST MY ENEMIES.
SPK SPKK
NNNOK!
"AGONY INTO ECSTASY.
"IF SUCH IS THE PRICE OF MY HOLY MISSION--
PLAP
"--THEN SO BE IT."


THE BLOOD WAS EVERYWHERE.
BY NOW, EVEN THE WEREWOLF HAD FIGURED IT OUT.
IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
EITHER CURWEN WOULD CATCH UP WITH HIM EVENTUALLY--
--OR HE'D BLEED TO DEATH.
THIS WAS IT
THE END OF THE ROAD.
BUT, AS HE LAY ON THE TARMAC, WITH THE LIFE LEAKING OUT OF HIM--
--SOMETHING WAS COMING.
SOMETHING WITH A SCENT THAT WAS...FAMILIAR, SOMEHOW.
SOMETHING EVIL
HARR...?
THE WEREWOLF LOOKED UP...
HI, DAD
LONG TIME NO SEE.
AND SAW THAT THE CAVALRY HAD ARRIVED.
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE.

THERE ARE STRANGE SOUNDS STIRRING IN THE SEA TONIGHT--
--THE SHATTERING ROAR OF COLLAPSING ROCK AND RUBBLE THAT SUDDENLY SEAL THE ENTRANCE TO A FATHOMS-DEEP CAVERN...
--THE MOCKING LAUGHTER OF THE SUBMARINE MENACE THE WORLD KNOWS ONLY AS TIGER SHARK...
AND DESPERATE SHOUTING OF NOTED OCEANOGRAPHER WALTER NEWELL, CLAD IN THE SUPER-POWERFUL BATTLE-SUIT THAT TRANSFORMS HIM INTO...
STINGRAY
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
DIANE!
JUST HANG ON, DARLING! I'LL SAVE YOU!
TZZAK
FAMILY MATTERS
chapter four
BROTHERLY LOVE

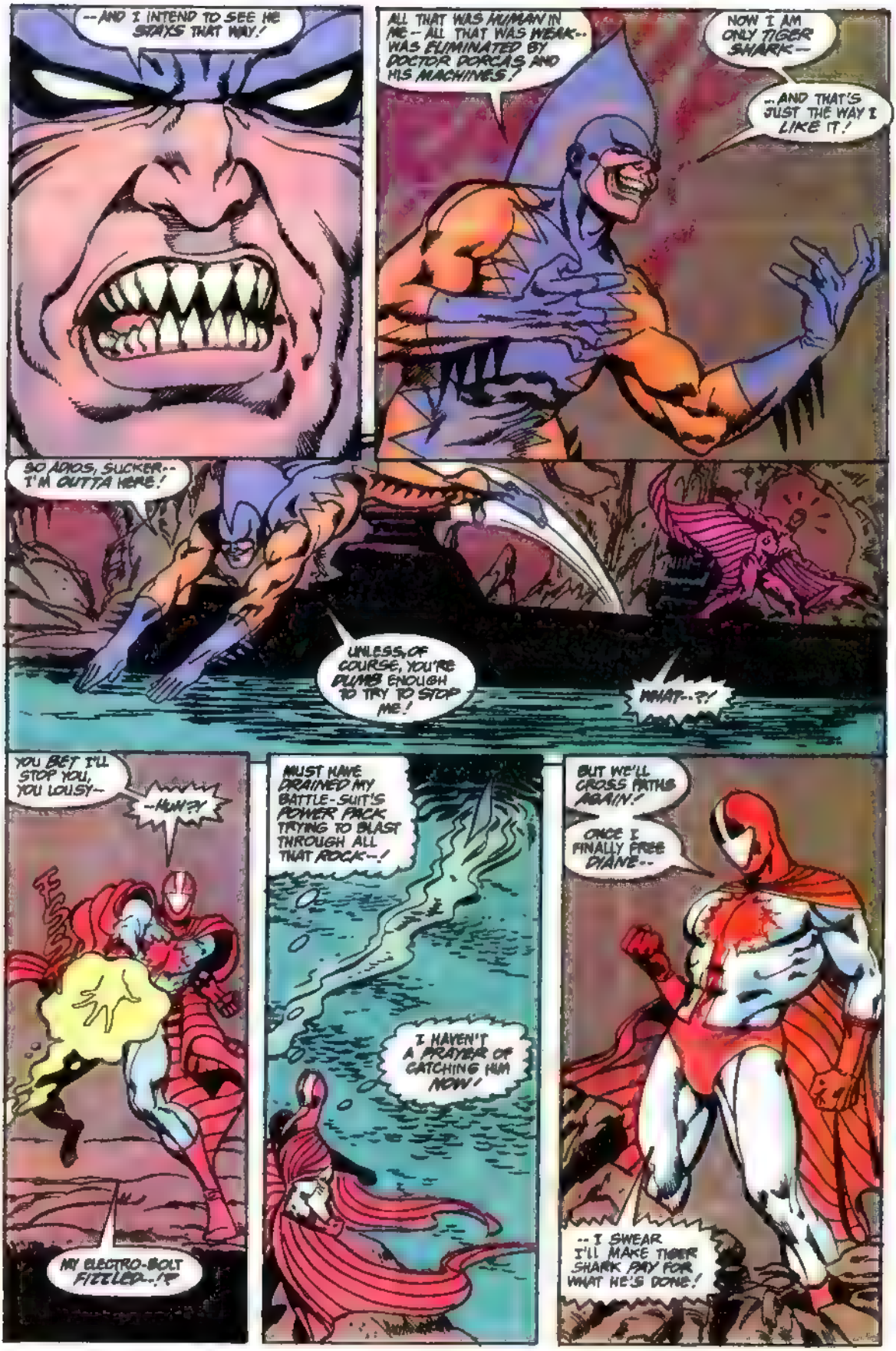

READY TO QUIT YET, JELLYFISH?
STOP LAUGHING, CURSE YOU-- AND HELP ME!
WHY SHOULD I?
BECAUSE THAT'S YOUR SISTER BURIED BEHIND ALL THIS RUBBLE--
FZZAKKT

--AND DIANE MAY STILL BE ALIVE IN THERE!
LIVING OR DEAD MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME, SHRIMP.
TIGER SHARK HAS NO SISTER!
FZZAKKT

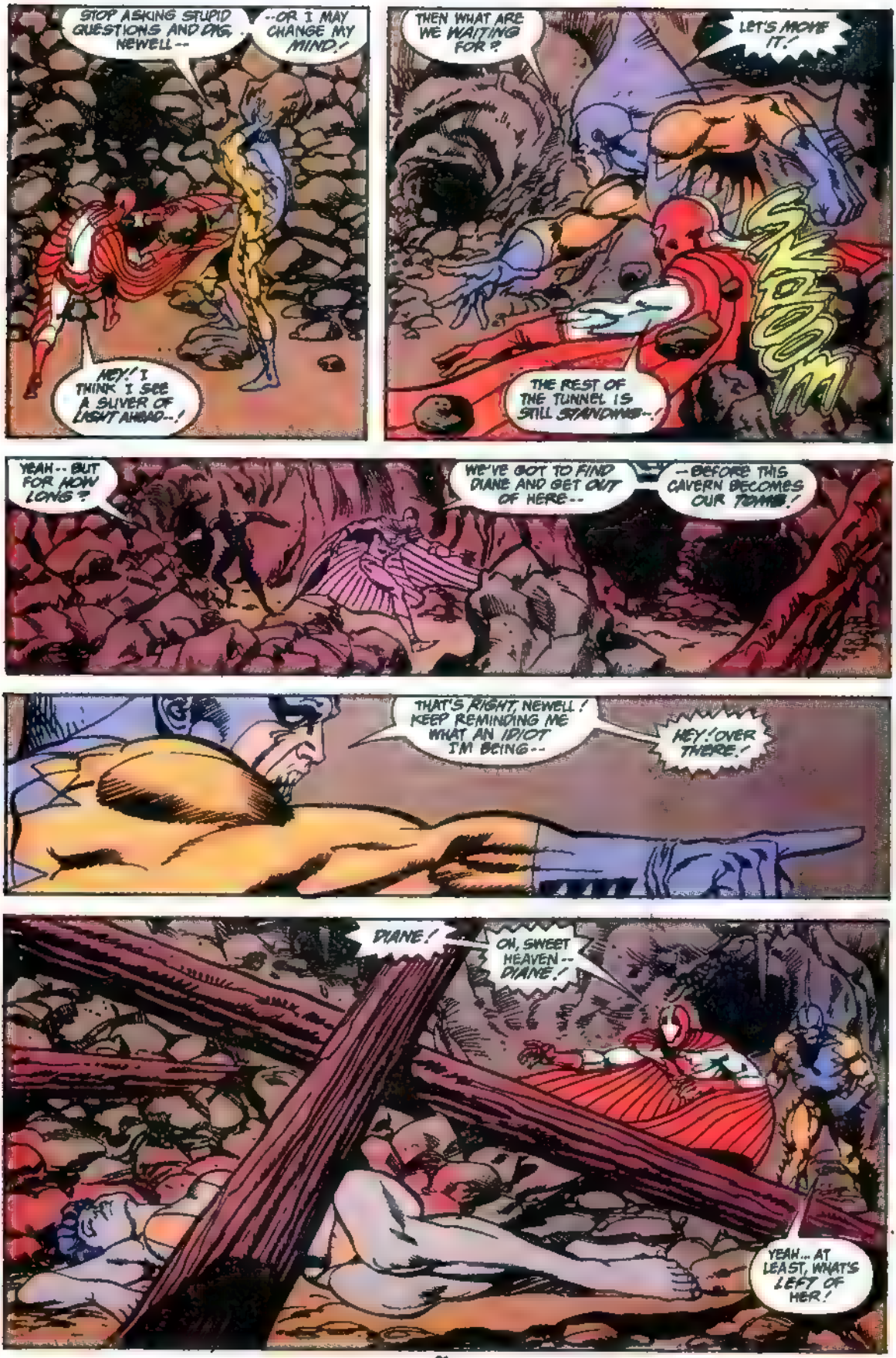

BUT TODD ARLISS DOES!
HE'S STILL INSIDE YOU SOMEWHERE-- UNDER ALL THAT HATE AND BILE!
YOU'VE GOT TO FIND HIM AGAIN!
FZZAKKT
WASTE OF EFFORT, PAL!
HE'S NOT WORTH LOOKING FOR!

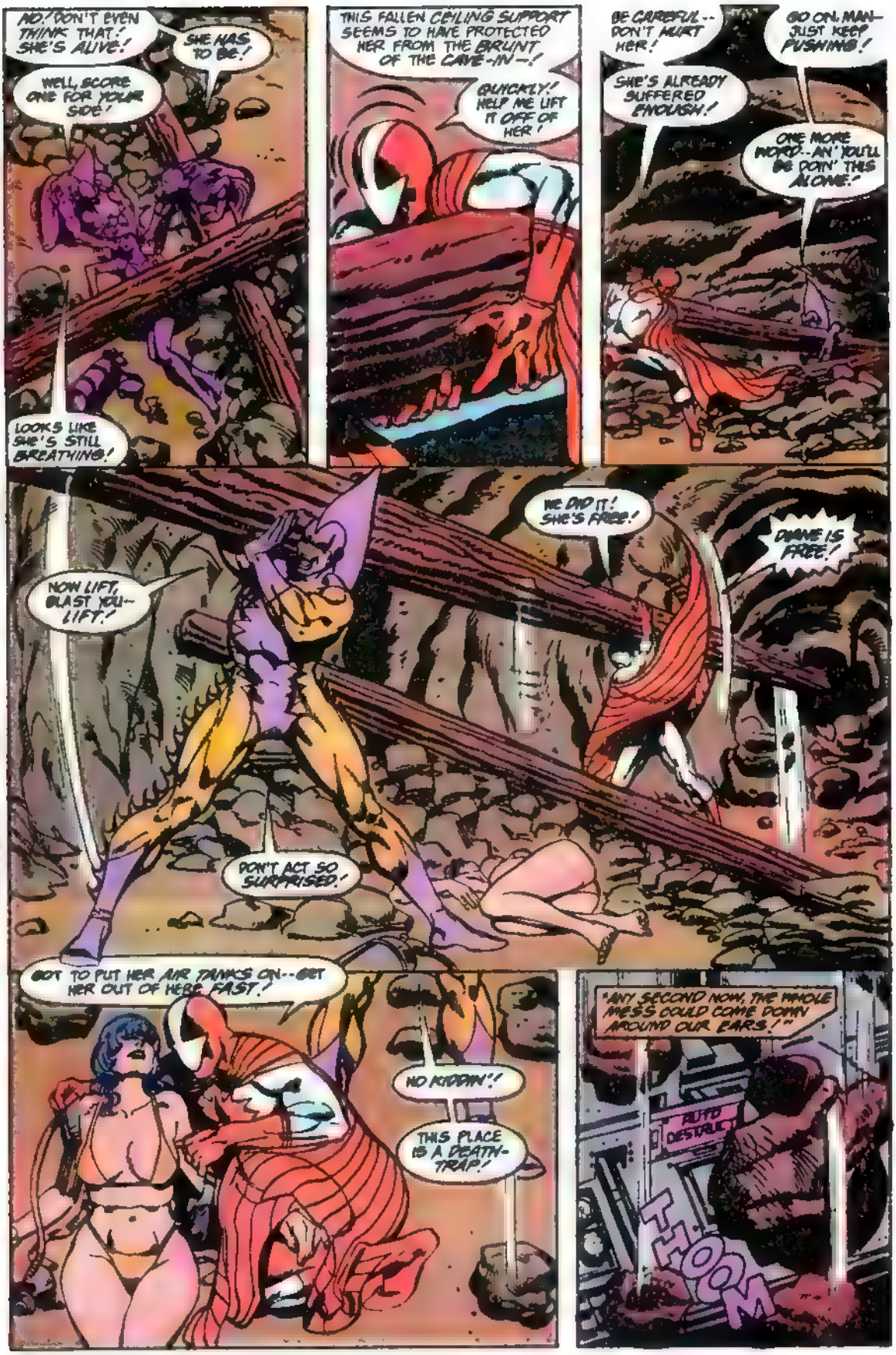
YOUR SISTER WOULDN'T AGREE!
SHE NEVER STOPPED BELIEVING IN YOU--
--NEVER STOPPED HOPING YOU COULD SOMEDAY BE CURED!

THEN SHE WAS A FOOL!
TODD ARLISS IS DEAD--


--AND I INTEND TO SEE HE STAYS THAT WAY!
ALL THAT WAS HUMAN IN ME -- ALL THAT WAS WEAK-- WAS ELIMINATED BY DOCTOR DORCAS AND HIS MACHINES!
NOW I AM ONLY TIGER SHARK--
--AND THAT'S JUST THE WAY I LIKE IT!
SO ADIOS, SUCKER-- I'M OUTTA HERE!
UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU'RE PLUMB ENOUGH TO TRY TO STOP ME!
WHAT--?!
YOU BET I'LL STOP YOU, YOU LOUSY--
--HUH?!
FSSST
MY ELECTRO-BOLT FIZZLED--!?
MUST HAVE DRAINED MY BATTLE-SUIT'S POWER PACK TRYING TO BLAST THROUGH ALL THAT ROCK--!
I HAVEN'T A PRAYER OF CATCHING HIM NOW!
BUT WE'LL CROSS PATHS AGAIN!
ONCE I FINALLY FREE DIANE--
-- I SWEAR I'LL MAKE TIGER SHARK PAY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE!

I JUST THANK THE FATES THOSE ELECTRO-BOLTS AREN'T MY ONLY POWER--!
THIS REINFORCED EXO-SKELETON IN MY BATTLE-SUIT MAKES ME AS STRONG AS TWENTY MEN.!
I'LL DIG DIANE FREE WITH MY BARE HANDS IF NEED BE.!
AND DIG HE DOES..
--CLEARING AWAY THE MOUNTAIN OF STONE WITH THE SKILL AND SPEED OF A DOZEN BULLDOZERS--
--HURLING ASIDE ROCK AND DEBRIS AS IF IT WERE SO MUCH SYTROFOAM--
-- UNTIL HIS GLOVES ARE WORN THROUGH--
-- AND HIS FINGERS ARE RAW AND BLEEDING...
THIS IS HOPELESS.! I'M BARELY MAKING A DENT IN THIS MESS.!
DESPITE ALL MY POWER, I'LL NEVER BREAK THROUGH TO DIANE IN TIME--.!
NEVER THOUGHT OF YOU AS A QUITTER, NEWELL.!
WHO--?!
WHO ELSE?
TIGER SHARK.! YOU CAME BACK.!?
BUT WHY?


STOP ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS AND DIG, NEWELL--
--OR I MAY CHANGE MY MIND!
HEY! I THINK I SEE A SLIVER OF LIGHT AHEAD--!
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
LET'S MOVE IT!
SLOOM
THE REST OF THE TUNNEL IS STILL STANDING--!
YEAH-- BUT FOR HOW LONG?
WE'VE GOT TO FIND DIANE AND GET OUT OF HERE--
--BEFORE THIS CAVERN BECOMES OUR TOMB!
THAT'S RIGHT, NEWELL! KEEP REMINDING ME WHAT AN IDIOT I'M BEING--
HEY! OVER THERE!
DIANE!
OH, SWEET HEAVEN-- DIANE!
YEAH... AT LEAST, WHAT'S LEFT OF HER!


NO! DON'T EVEN THINK THAT! SHE'S ALIVE!
SHE HAS TO BE!
WELL, SCORE ONE FOR YOUR SIDE!
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S STILL BREATHING!
THIS FALLEN CEILING SUPPORT SEEMS TO HAVE PROTECTED HER FROM THE BRUNT OF THE CAVE-IN--!
QUICKLY! HELP ME LIFT IT OFF OF HER!
BE CAREFUL-- DON'T HURT HER!
SHE'S ALREADY SUFFERED ENOUGH!
GO ON, MAN-- JUST KEEP PUSHING!
ONE MORE WORD--AN' YOU'LL BE DOIN' THIS ALONE!
WE DID IT! SHE'S FREE!
DIANE IS FREE!
NOW LIFT, BLAST YOU-- LIFT!
DON'T ACT SO SURPRISED!
GOT TO PUT HER AIR TANKS ON--GET HER OUT OF HERE FAST!
NO KIDDIN'!
THIS PLACE IS A DEATH-TRAP!
"ANY SECOND NOW, THE WHOLE MESS COULD COME DOWN AROUND OUR EARS!"
AUTO DESTRUCT
THOOM

VWOOPVWOOPVWOOPVWOOPVWOOP
BLAST!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
IT'S THE EMERGENCY ALARM!
SOMETHING MUST'VE TRIGGERED DORCASS' SELF-DESTRUCT SYSTEM!
WE'VE ONLY GOT SECONDS BEFORE THIS PLACE IS HISTORY!
T-TOOO--?
NO! BLAST IT--TIGER SHARK!
THE NAME IS TIGER SHARK!
LOOK, ALL OUR NAMES WILL BE MUD UNLESS WE GET OUT OF HERE!
Y'KNOW, NEWELL--YOU GOT A REAL TALENT FOR STATING THE OBVIOUS!
THAK!
NO! WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE--! THE CEILING SUPPORT IS COLLAPSING!
SO I SEE!
GO ON--GET THE WOMAN OUT OF HERE!
I'LL HOLD THIS PLACE UP UNTIL YOU'RE CLEAR!
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?
HEY, I DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR DEATH WISH, PAL!
I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

GOT TO MOVE FAST--GAIN AS MUCH DISTANCE AS I CAN--!
WHEN THAT PLACE GOES, THE CONCUSSION ALONE WILL FEEL LIKE A BOMB-BLAST!
COME ON, ARLISS--WE'RE CLEAR!
YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THERE BEFORE IT'S--
--TOO LATE--
WHA-WHA
WHOOM
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE DIDN'T GET AWAY IN TIME--
--AND THERE'S NO CHANCE ANYTHING COULD STILL BE ALIVE IN THERE!
WH-WHAT HAPPENED--?!
YOU WERE TRAPPED IN A CAVE-IN... I NEEDED HELP TO SAVE YOU... AND TIGER SHARK SAVED US BOTH...
NO, WALTER--YOU'RE WRONG.
WE WEREN'T SAVED BY TIGER SHARK--!
WE WERE SAVED BY MY BROTHER...
...TODD...
THE END

LIFE HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR TEENAGED ROBBIE BALDWIN SINCE AN ACCIDENT IN THE LAB WHERE HE WORKS AFTER SCHOOL TRANSFORMED HIM INTO...

SPEEDBALL

ANY NUMBER CAN PLAY

POOR ROBBIE LIVES IN SPRINGDALE, PERHAPS THE ONLY AMERICAN CITY WITH AN ORDINANCE AGAINST COSTUMED HEROES OR SUPERBEINGS OF ANY KIND

ROBBIE IS NOT, HOWEVER, SPRINGDALE'S ONLY MASKED RESIDENT -- AS THIS GENTLEMEN'S FACE CLEARLY SHOWS

AT LAST! I HAVE IT! NO ONE CAN STOP ME NOW!

MAN! WHAT A WEIRD LOOKING GUY! HIS MASK IS LIKE THE SIDE OF A DIE, OR SOMETHING...

TACKY! AND DOESN'T HE KNOW IT'S ILLEGAL TO WEAR IT HERE?

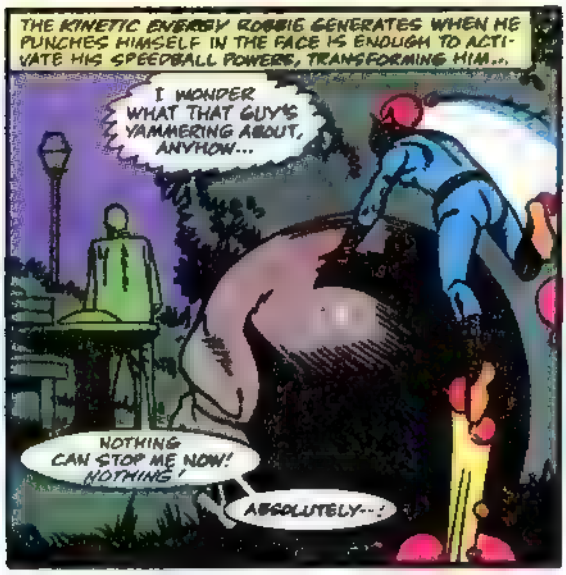
WE'RE AWFULLY CLOSE TO DOC RAMSON'S LAB I HOPE THAT GUY DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING.

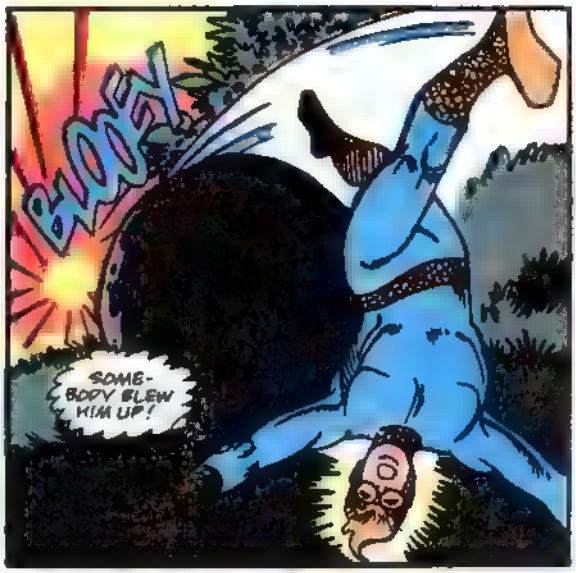
NO! NO ONE CAN STOP ME! I'M COMPLETELY UNSTOPPABLE!

TOTALLY!

MAYBE I BETTER FOLLOW HIM.

THAT'D BE MY WORST NIGHTMARE. IF SOMETHING BAD HAPPENS AND I GET BLAMED FOR IT...
..MAYBE EXPOSED AS THE MASKED MARVEL...
..RIDICULED BY JANITORS..
...REVILED BY SCIENTISTS.
..MOCKED BY MEILS THE CAT..
..ARRESTED..
..REJECTED BY MY MOM AND DAD..
SON, WE'RE VERY, VERY DISAPPOINTED IN YOU.
THROWN OUT OF MY PEER GROUP! NO! IT CAN'T BE! I WON'T LET IT HAPPEN!


THE KINETIC ENERGY ROBBIE GENERATES WHEN HE PUNCHES HIMSELF IN THE FACE IS ENOUGH TO ACTIVATE HIS SPEEDBALL POWERS, TRANSFORMING HIM...
I WONDER WHAT THAT GUY'S YAMMERING ABOUT, ANYHOW...
NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW! NOTHING!
ABSOLUTELY--!


BLOOEY
SOMEBODY BLEW HIM UP!

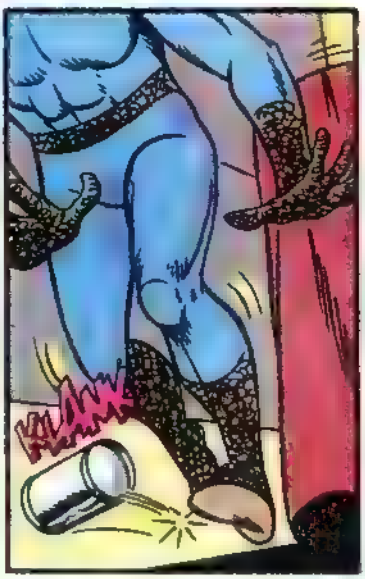
THE CONCUSSION BOUNCES ROBBIE ELSEWHERE IN THE PARK, WHERE HE SEES..
TWO NINE DICE FACES!
GLAD YOU WERE ABLE TO MEET ME TRIO!
THE SITUATION IS WORSE THAN WE SUSPECTED! SOLO KNOWS YOU AND DUET ARE ON TO HIM, AND HE PLANS TO HAVE YOU KILLED! FORTUNATELY, NO ONE SUSPECTS--
--MEEE
BLAM
SOMEONE SHOT HIM! AND THAT BULLET PROBABLY HAD MY NUMBER ON IT!
TRIO! SPEAK TO ME, TRIO!
HE'S TAKIN' THE DEAD GUY'S MASK AND PUTTING IT ON HIS OWN FACE.
WHERE'S HE GOIN' NOW? I GOTTA STAY CLOSE ENOUGH TO LISTEN!
CLOSED FOR ALTERAT
GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE BACK, TRIO. OUR LITTLE PROBLEM WITH DUET AND SEXTET IS COMPLETELY SOLVED
ER... WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT GUN?
THREATENING YOU, YOU DIRTY, DOUBLE-CROSSING, MURDERING EMBEZZLER, YOU!
SEXTET! YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR SPOTS! OF ALL THE ROTTEN CHEATS!
LOOK WHO'S TALKING! "CLOSED FOR ALTERATIONS", HAH! YOU'VE BEEN STEALING THE PROFITS FROM "SLICE AND DICE" FOR MONTHS!
THAT'S WHY THERE WAS NO MONEY TO KEEP THE PLACE GOING!
AND WHEN DUET FOUND PROOF, YOU HAD HIM KILLED AND CAME AFTER ME...
...BUT YOUR INCOMPETENT HENCHMEN KILLED TRIO INSTEAD!
JUST WAIT UNTIL QUARTET AND QUINTET FIND OUT!

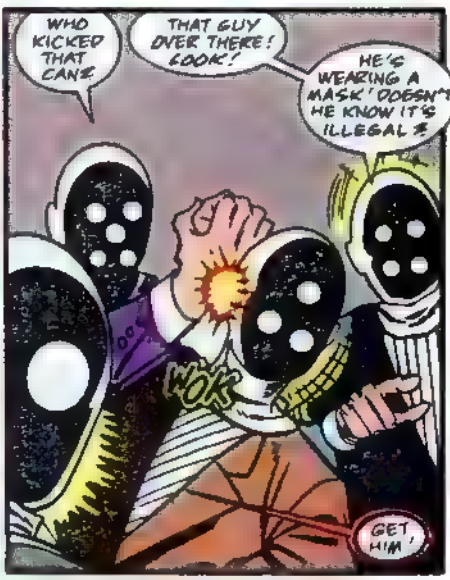
WE ALREADY KNOW!
GREAT! GLAD FOR THE HELP, GUYS.

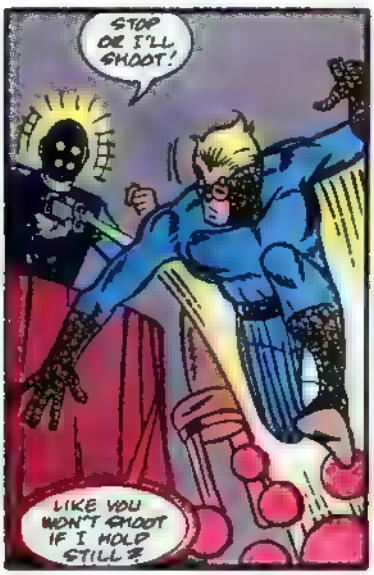
MAYBE I WON'T HAVE TO GET INVOLVED HERE AFTER ALL.

GIVE US THAT GUN, FOOL!
OW! YOU'RE ON MY SIDE!
WE'RE GOING FOR THE BUCKS

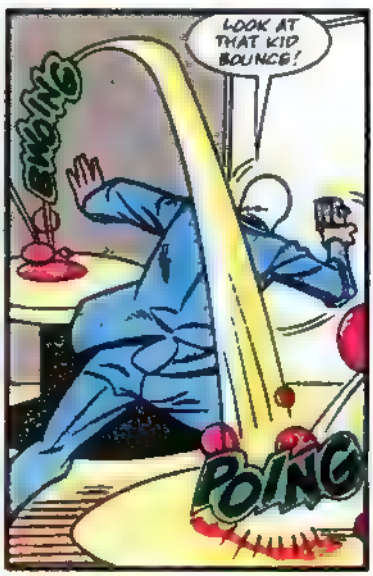
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE POLICE WOULD PROBABLY LIKE TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.
I'LL JUST SLIP AWAY.. QUIETLY. DISCREETLY.

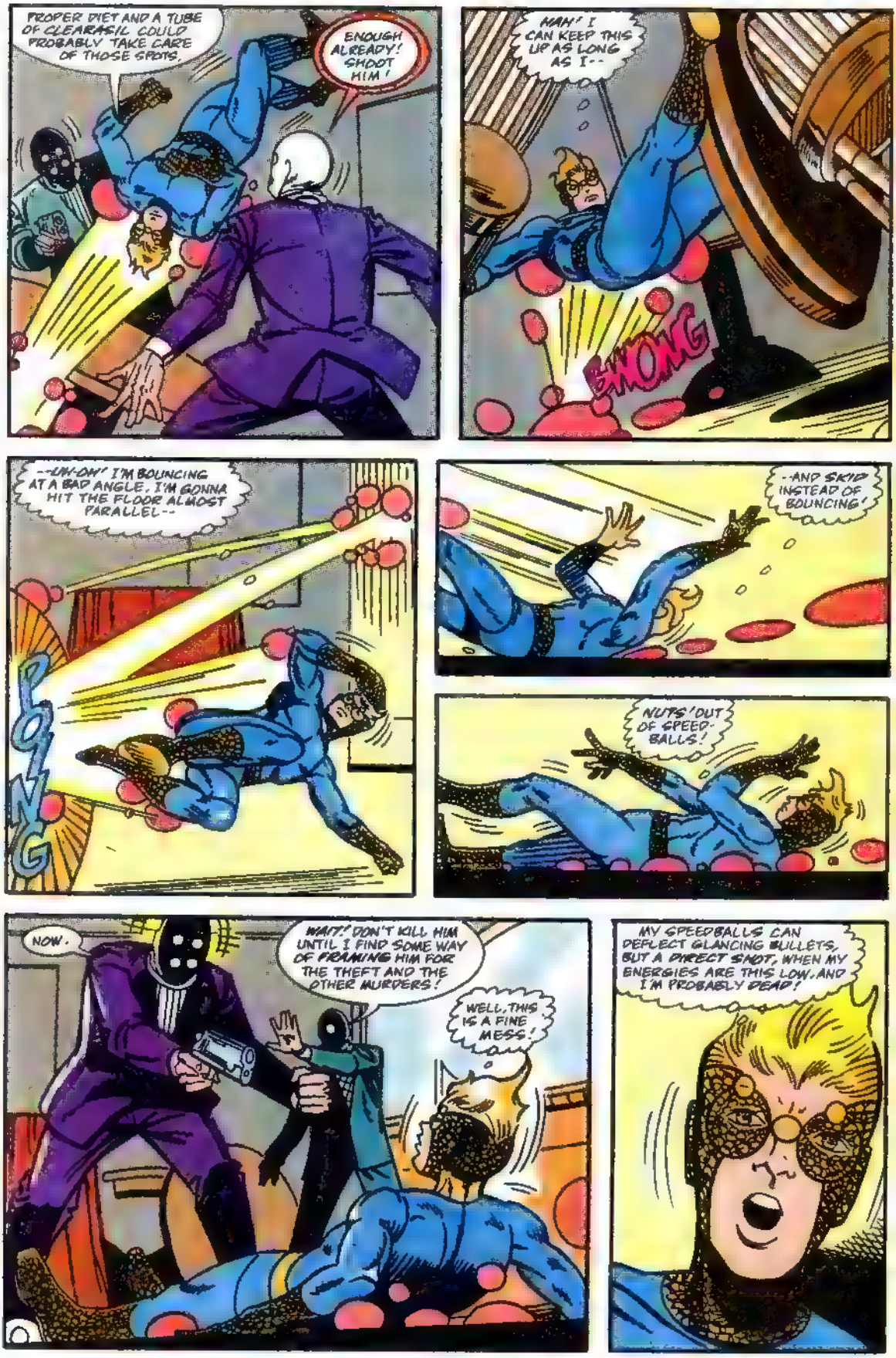

KLANK


WHO KICKED THAT CAN?
THAT GUY OVER THERE! LOOK!
HE'S WEARING A MASK! DOESN'T HE KNOW IT'S ILLEGAL?
WOK
GET HIM!


STOP OR I'LL SHOOT!
LIKE YOU WON'T SHOOT IF I HOLD STILL?

LATER FOR THAT!


LOOK AT THAT KID BOUNCE!
BOING
POING

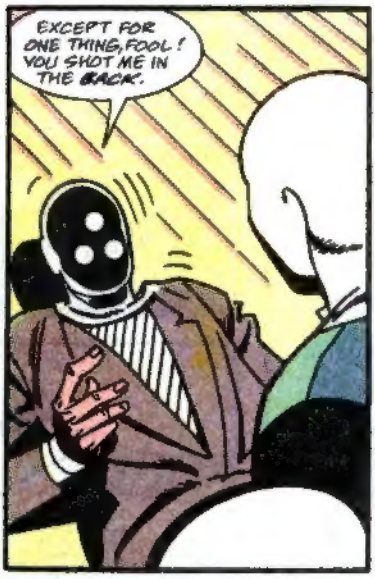

PROPER DIET AND A TUBE OF CLEARASIL COULD PROBABLY TAKE CARE OF THOSE SPOTS.
ENOUGH ALREADY! SHOOT HIM!
NAH! I CAN KEEP THIS UP AS LONG AS I--
BWONG
--UH-OH! I'M BOUNCING AT A BAD ANGLE, I'M GONNA HIT THE FLOOR ALMOST PARALLEL--
BONG
--AND SKID INSTEAD OF BOUNCING!
NUTS! OUT OF SPEED-BALLS!
NOW.
WAIT! DON'T KILL HIM UNTIL I FIND SOME WAY OF FRAMING HIM FOR THE THEFT AND THE OTHER MURDERS!
WELL, THIS IS A FINE MESS!
MY SPEEDBALLS CAN DEFLECT GLANCING BULLETS, BUT A DIRECT SHOT, WHEN MY ENERGIES ARE THIS LOW, AND I'M PROBABLY DEAD!

NOW'S MY CHANCE!

BLAM
WANNA BET?

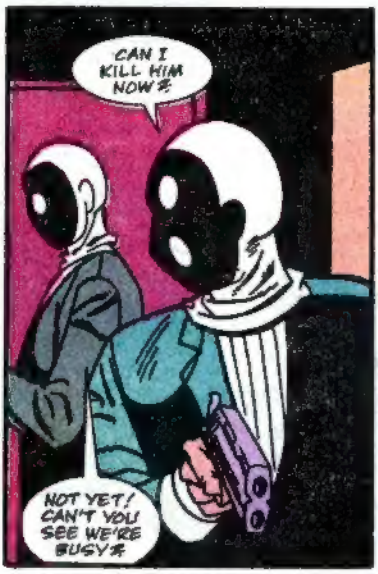
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! WE HADN'T COMMITTED THE THIRD MURDER YET.
WHY WILL WE CLAIM WE DID IT?
LET'S SEE... HE WAS COMING AT US... IT WAS SELF-DEFENSE...

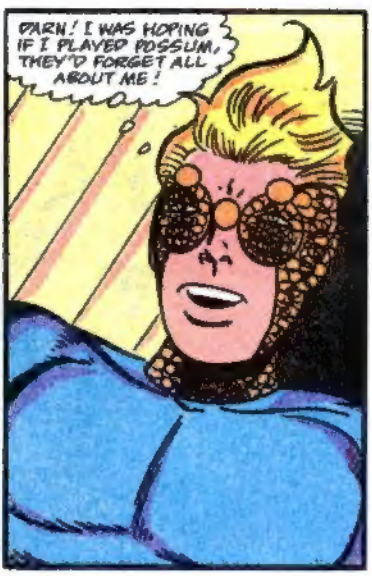
YEG, I LIKE IT! THE POLICE ARE SURE TO BUY THAT!

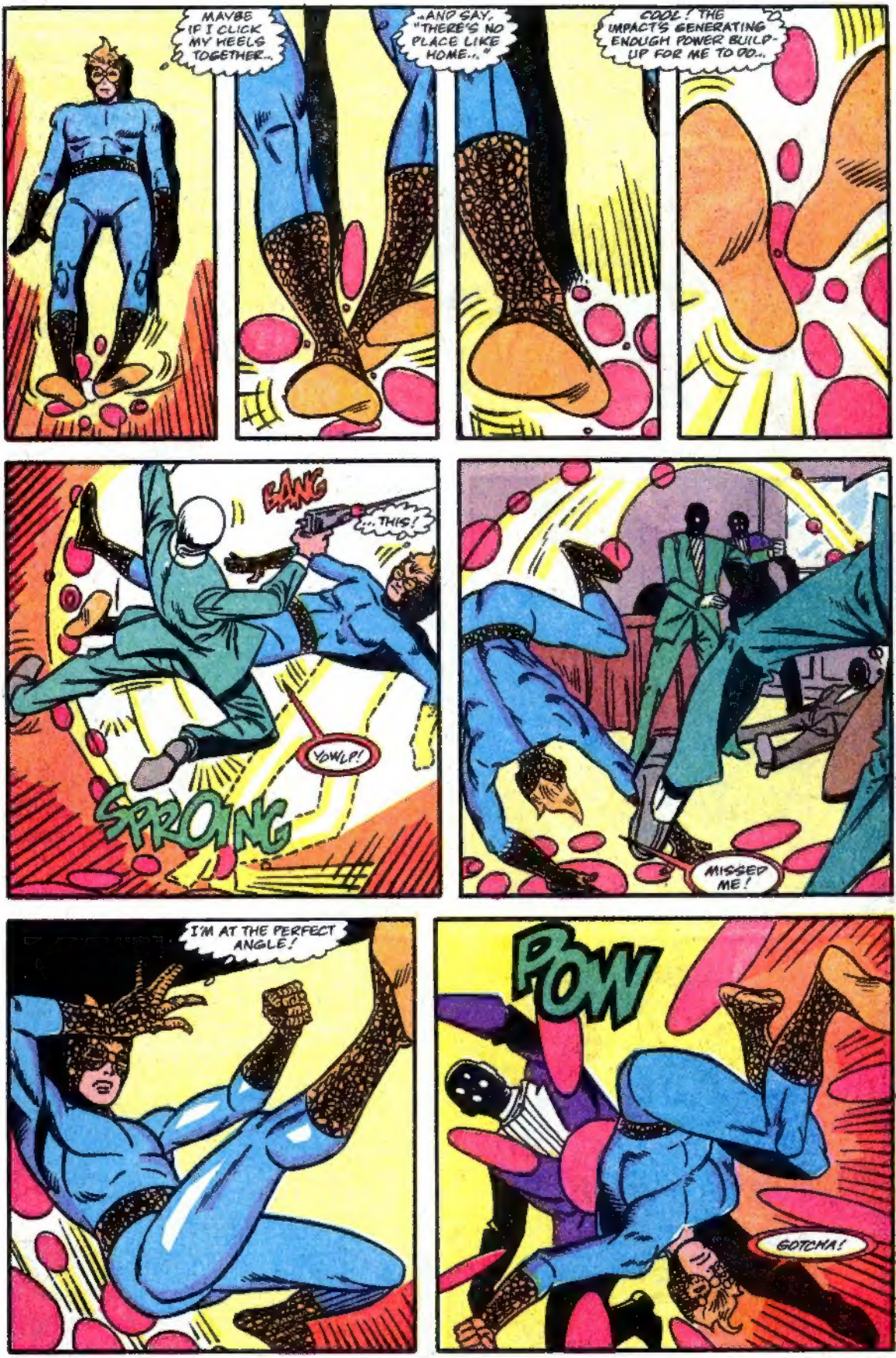

EXCEPT FOR ONE THING, FOOL! YOU SHOT ME IN THE BACK.

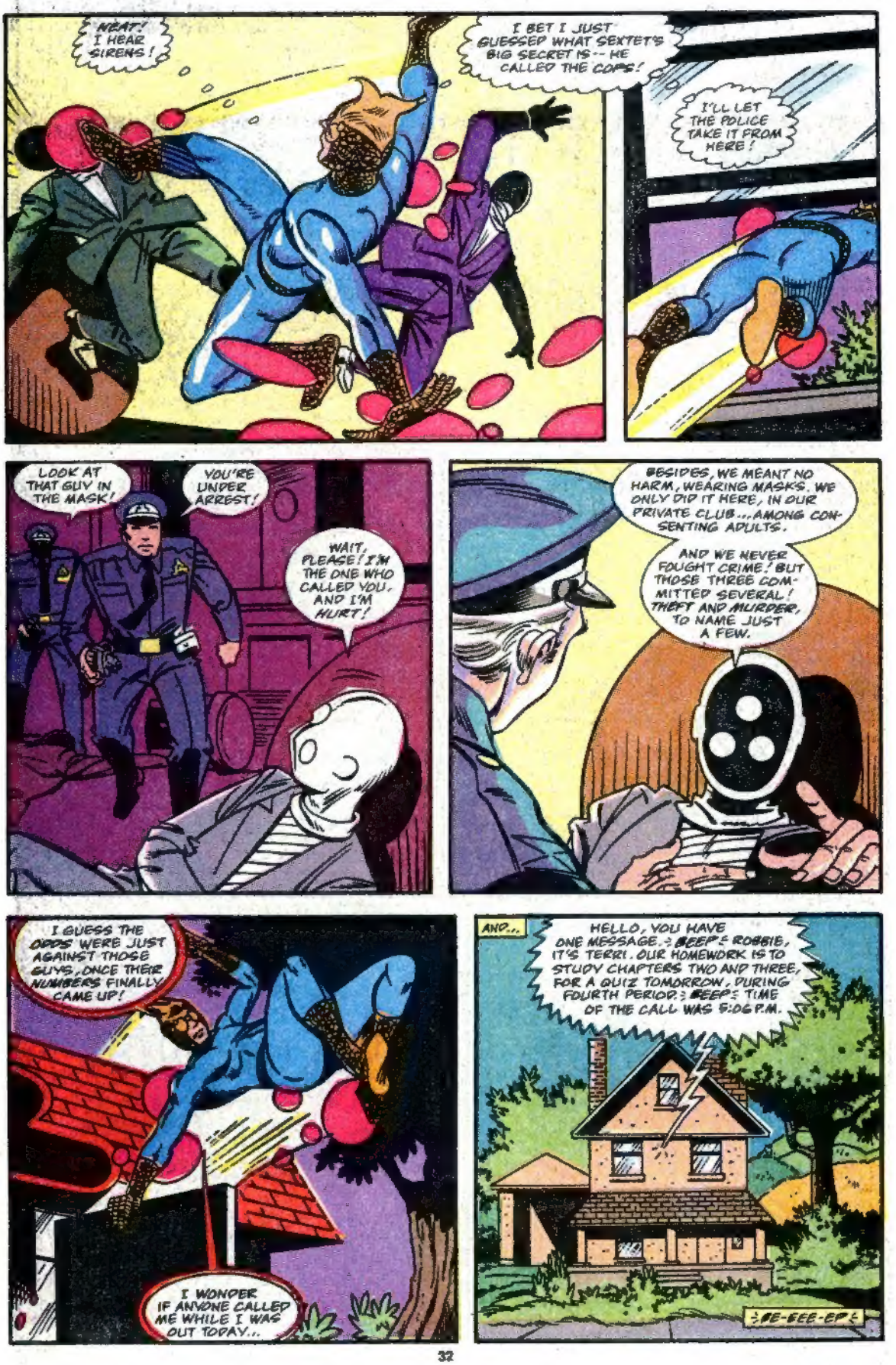
AND I HAVE A SECRET THAT WILL RUIN YOU ALL!

A SECRET? I HATE GUESSING GAMES!
LET'S SEE... FIRST WORD... SOUNDS LIKE...


CAN I KILL HIM NOW?
NOT YET! CAN'T YOU SEE WE'RE BUSY?


DARN! I WAS HOPING IF I PLAYED POSSUM, THEY'D FORGET ALL ABOUT ME!


MAYBE IF I CLICK MY HEELS TOGETHER...
...AND SAY, "THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME..."
COOL! THE IMPACTS GENERATING ENOUGH POWER BUILD-UP FOR ME TO DO...
BANG
...THIS!
YOWLP!
SPROING
MISSED ME!
I'M AT THE PERFECT ANGLE!
POW
GOTCHA!


NEAT! I HEAR SIRENS!
I BET I JUST GUESSED WHAT SEXTET'S BIG SECRET IS -- HE CALLED THE COPS!
I'LL LET THE POLICE TAKE IT FROM HERE!
LOOK AT THAT GUY IN THE MASK!
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WAIT, PLEASE! I'M THE ONE WHO CALLED YOU, AND I'M HURT!
BESIDES, WE MEANT NO HARM, WEARING MASKS. WE ONLY DID IT HERE, IN OUR PRIVATE CLUB... AMONG CONSENTING ADULTS.
AND WE NEVER FOUGHT CRIME! BUT THOSE THREE COMMITTED SEVERAL! THEFT AND MURDER, TO NAME JUST A FEW.
I GUESS THE ODDS WERE JUST AGAINST THOSE GUYS, ONCE THEIR NUMBERS FINALLY CAME UP!
I WONDER IF ANYONE CALLED ME WHILE I WAS OUT TODAY...
AND...
HELLO, YOU HAVE ONE MESSAGE. BEEP! ROBBIE, IT'S TERRI. OUR HOMEWORK IS TO STUDY CHAPTERS TWO AND THREE, FOR A QUIZ TOMORROW, DURING FOURTH PERIOD. BEEP! TIME OF THE CALL WAS 5:06 P.M.
BE-EEE-EP

WEREWOLF
BY NIGHT™
VS.
SILVER
DAGGER!
SPEEDBALL™
DISCOVERS
TROUBLE IN
SPRINGDALE!
THE SHOCKING
CONCLUSION TO
THE STINGRAY™
SAGA!